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Cotton, Jane Baldwin.

Memories and traditions

Allen County, Ind.

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M E M O R I E S
A N D
T R A D I T I O N S

By
Jane S. Baldwin

ROSE HILL
WATERBURY, CONNECTICUT
1909

Allen, Perry
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FOREWORD.

“God is our help in ages past,
Our hope in years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our Eternal Home.”

ROSE HILL, November, 1906.

My dear Helen,—As you urge me to write a brief history of the Starkweather family, especially concerning persons and events in connection with my own memory, I gladly comply.

Aunt Jane.

MEMORIES AND TRADITIONS

CHAPTER I.

FIRST, SECOND, AND THIRD GENERATIONS.

A. Robert Starkweather was born in Wales or Scotland, but came from the Isle of Man to America, and settled in Roxbury, Mass., about the year 1640. He married Jennette Roberts, who was born in Wales, and came to Roxbury with her parents in 1636. The children of Robert and Jennette Starkweather were Elizabeth, Lydia, *John*, and Deborah. The family removed to Ipswich, where the father died in 1674.

B. John Starkweather, the only son of Robert Starkweather, was born in Roxbury, Mass., in 1646. After his marriage they lived in Ipswich, and afterwards in Preston, Conn. The names of the children of John and Ann Starkweather were: Thomas, born

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1677; Timothy, *John*, Robert, Richard, Mary, and Lydia.

C. John Starkweather, son of John and Ann Starkweather, was born in Ipswich, September, 1680. He married Mary Herrick in Preston, Conn., Dec. 28, 1708. He died in 1750. His wife died in January, 1786, aged ninety-six. The children of John and Mary H. Starkweather are: Mary, born in Stonington, Conn., 1711; Lydia, Anna, John, Samuel, *Joel*, Elizabeth, *Robert*.

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CHAPTER II.

FOURTH GENERATION.

D. Robert Starkweather was born in Stonington, Conn., Aug. 26, 1728. In 1752 he married Sally Colby in Ipswich, Mass. They lived in Stonington, Conn. Their children were: James, Ezra, Lucy, Joseph, John, Simeon, *Robert*, Charles, Elizabeth, Sara, Asa, Polly.

From a very interesting article, written by my father's cousin, Mrs. Nancy S. Daniels, in 1845, and published in a newspaper, I copy the following extract:—

“Soon after my grandfather came from Stonington, Conn., to make Chesterfield his home, he came to visit our home in Worthington. It was about fifty years ago, but even now I seem to hear the tremulous

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voice of the old gentleman and to see the big tears course their way down the cheek, as he talked with my father of past trials,—when five of his eight sons had died within a few months of each other. They talked of James, who had been shot in an engagement with the British; Joseph, after great suffering in the war, died a prisoner in Hayti; Simeon, after long service in the war, was taken from the camp in feeble condition, and died at home, in holy triumph; of John, who lost his life in his country's service; and then of little Asa, who in the dawn of life existence had turned away from the bitter cup of life."

Thus four of the eight sons of our honored ancestors, Robert and Sally Starkweather, fought in the Revolutionary War, and bravely laid down their lives in the service of their country. We hallow their memory.

The records concerning this worthy couple

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of the fourth generation represent him (Robert, Sr.) to be a person of great intelligence and strength of character, with warm sympathies and noble Christian principles. His brother Joel, we must remember, was the grandfather of my mother* as he was the grandfather of my father, and the brothers seem greatly to have resembled each other in character. Like most others in these early times, when comforts were few and luxuries unknown, this family of Robert and Sally must have endured great hardships and privations, in addition to the severe trial of losing by death five of their eight sons. The oppression and tyranny of the British yoke, the long and bloody War of the Revolution, were parts of their sad and painful experience. Their surviving sons and daughters had found

* See page 70 for the family of my mother, beginning with Joel.

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homes of their own in Massachusetts, and the parents wisely decided to leave the dear old home in Stonington, and find a home near their children. They removed to Chesterfield about the year 1800, where they bought a farm north of the present church. Their son Robert, Jr., was here a physician with a good practice, and their sons Ezra and Charles lived six miles away in Worthington, where also two of their daughters were well settled. Tradition describes the mother as an ambitious and thrifty woman and as taking great pride in the proud position her sons were occupying. Let us hope that the declining years of their long and eventful lives were the years of their greatest contentment and happiness, and cheered and brightened by the devoted affection of their children and grandchildren. Robert Starkweather died March 15, 1819, aged ninety years, six months; Sally Stark-

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weather died Aug. 22, 1824, aged ninety-three years.

I. Ezra Starkweather, the second son of Robert and Sally, was born in Stonington, Conn., Dec. 15, 1754. He was educated at Williams College. He was a physician in Preston, Conn., where he had a lucrative practice, which he abandoned for a time and entered the war. After leaving the army, he returned to Preston, and about the year 1785 removed to Worthington, Mass. He married Esther Brewster. He built, and occupied till his death, the large house which you have often seen and which is now owned by Mrs. Emily E. Drury. I well remember his venerable form. After the fashion of earlier times, he continued to wear short trousers and long stockings and low shoes,—silver buckles at knee and on shoes. He was a person of great dignity, and was universally respected for his intelligence, his

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upright character and Christian life. He not only filled posts of honor in Worthington, but also served in the Legislature *four* years and in the Senate *thirteen* years. He was in Governor's Council also, and resigned on account of the condition of his beloved wife, who was afflicted with blindness. When I was ten years old, I went to Uncle Ezra's funeral with my grandfather. He came in a chaise from Northampton to attend the funeral, and took me with him. I distinctly remember the very long procession. Uncle Ezra willed to the town of Worthington four thousand dollars for church and school purposes and a sum of money also to Williams College. He gave his house and furniture to my grandfather, who assumed the care of the aged and afflicted widow, and most generously and faithfully was she cared for during her remaining years. After her death the furniture was removed to Chester-

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field. The old family clock being a part of it, my grandfather gave it at once to my father as he had one exactly like it. Eventually, it was given to my brother Henry, who gave it to his oldest daughter as a wedding present in 1877. It showed unmistakable signs of long wear, but Waterbury factories well know how to make old things look new, and it is now a prized and beautiful heirloom in the home of Mrs. H. L. Wade. The old and handsome desk in your hall on the second floor was also Uncle Ezra's, and some of your parlor chairs; but your mother did not come into possession of the valued relics until after the death of our grandfather. Ezra Starkweather died July 27, 1834, aged eighty.

II. Deacon Charles Starkweather, brother of the preceding, was born in Stonington, Conn., March 15, 1757. He married Deborah Brown, and removed to Worthington, Mass.

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Their children were Rodman, Mrs. Mary Clark, Mrs. Nancy Daniels, Mrs. Deborah Henshaw, Mrs. J. Ermina Locke, and Nathaniel. With all these persons our family were well acquainted, and with some of them on most intimate terms.

1. Dr. Rodman Starkweather was a very successful business man in Buffalo. He married a Miss Brown, who was distinguished for her beauty as well as great intelligence. I visited them with my father in 1843 on our way to Chicago, and your mother also visited them twice on going and returning from Chicago in 1849 and 1850. Their only daughter, Jeanette, was a fine musician. Dr. Rodman Starkweather died in Buffalo, N.Y., 1858. Mrs. Rodman S. died in New York City, aged eighty-two, 1881.

2. Mary S. married Rev. Eber Clarke. She died young, leaving three children. One

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daughter, Mrs. Helen Clark Dwight, is still living, aged eighty-nine. Her only daughter is Mrs. Mary Perkins, who lives in Hartford.

3. Nancy S. married Rensloe Daniels in 1822. They had three children. Only one is now living. Mrs. Daniels was a very superior woman in all respects. She was an active Christian. She had a most lovable character, and to us she was like a real "Aunt Nancy," as we always called her. She was fond of literature and gifted as a writer of poetry. You may remember one of her beautiful poems, "Little Harry's Flowers." It is in your mother's scrap-book. They lived with her parents on the old farm in Worthington. After the death of her parents they moved to Easthampton, where they built a house, near the home of their only daughter, Frances. Mrs. Nancy S. Daniels died in Easthampton, 1878.

a. Frances Daniels, her daughter, was

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born in Worthington, June, 1824. She was unusually bright and intelligent as a child. She was about my own age, and we often exchanged visits of a week or two. We were at Mount Holyoke Seminary at the same time, and I have always from my earliest memory been very fond of her. She married Professor Hubbard, a very scholarly man, and prominent in educational work during his whole lifetime. They have two children: Emma, a graduate of Vassar; and Dr. Clark Hubbard, of Holyoke, who stands high in his profession. Professor Hubbard died in 1896. Cousin Frances and her daughter still live in Holyoke. They are greatly interested in church and mission work.

b. Edward Daniels, brother of the preceding, was born in Worthington, 1829. He married Emma Rankin, a dear friend of your mother and myself. They lived in Northampton. He died in San Francisco, Cal., August,

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1865. Their only child was Miss Mary Daniels, who after the death of her father and her mother gave herself to missionary work in Japan as a teacher, in which work she has been very successful, and expects to continue during her life. Your sister Alice met her when in Japan, in the spring of 1905. The present year she is taking a rest, and is with her aunt and cousins in Holyoke and incidentally addressing missionary meetings in different churches.

4. Deborah Starkweather was born in Worthington in 1796. She married Mr. Henshaw, a lawyer. They lived in Boston, and Uncle Chauncey and Aunt Martha boarded with them for a few months. They had three children, two of whom died young. The remaining daughter, Frances, married Mr. Kingsbury. Your mother knew her well in earlier times, and so did I. She was my own age. They lived in Boston, and had

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plenty of means. The winter of 1905 they went to California, as was their custom. She was taken ill at Riverside, and died there when we were in Pasadena. We all regretted we had not known our cousin Frances was at Riverside when we were there, and that we had not known of her illness.

5. Nathaniel Starkweather was born in Worthington, 1802. He married Lucia Crosby, of Brookfield. They lived in Worthington a few years. When they decided to move to Michigan, my father bought some of their elegant furniture. The mahogany table that Cousin Jane Myers has was given her by her grandfather. The mahogany stand in your parlor that was given to Julia by her grandfather, and she gave to your mother, also the arm-chair and other chairs,—all these pieces of furniture and others were bought from Cousin Nathaniel S. about the year 1832. They moved to Kalamazoo,

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where his wife died in 1844. I was visiting at Uncle Horace's at the time of her death, and attended her funeral. Great respect was paid to her memory. Her life was one of sorrow and disappointment. The husband married a second wife in New York City in 1853. He died January, 1891.

6. Jane Ermina Starkweather was born in Worthington, 1805. In 1829 she married John G. Locke. They resided in Lowell and Boston. She acquired a distinguished name as a writer of poetry. Your mother has a copy of her book of poems. They had seven children, some of whom died in infancy. She died in 1859.

III. Elizabeth Starkweather was born in Stonington, 1868. She married Roger Benjamin, and they settled in Worthington, near her brothers Ezra and Charles. I remember seeing her in my childhood. Her daughter Eliza married Benjamin Bryant,

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of Chesterfield, and with her family we lived on the most familiar terms of friendship and neighborly kindness. Their oldest son, Cousin Monroe, was one week older than myself. He early entered the jewelry business in Maiden Lane, New York, where he is still in business with his only son Will. As you know, he and your mother have always continued their early acquaintance. His sister Eleanor married Elbridge Thayer, and came to Waterbury to reside for a few years. It was through her influence your mother came to Waterbury, in the spring of 1851, as a music-teacher. Cousin Eleanor died in Philadelphia several years ago, leaving two sons. Her mother, Mrs. Eliza Bryant, died in Chesterfield in the summer of 1874.

(III.) Concerning Aunt Benjamin, tradition hands down many amusing stories. She was a thrifty and energetic woman, and

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doubtless, in her conversation, was given to great exaggeration. It is said that, when she had company one day, one of the guests incidentally praised the butter. She quickly replied, "Oh, I have firkins of better butter than this in the cellar." Perhaps her guests wondered she did not give them a sample of the best. Another story is that she once boasted that she got up one morning and washed and baked and ironed before there was a spark of fire or a soul up. That she was fond of the marvellous there is no doubt, but whether she ever actually made these absurd statements is uncertain, and we will give her the benefit of the doubt. In her old age she was quite feeble.

IV. Sara Starkweather, sister of the preceding, was born in 1770. She married Wanton Carr. She was a devout Christian and had great strength of character. They had a large family. She died in Cummington

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in 1856. I have devoted considerable space to these Worthington cousins, as their names were "household words" with us, and we were on terms of intimacy with them, especially the family of Mrs. Daniels. She was very fond of your mother and greatly admired your father, whom she met in Northampton. She was good company for the old or the young, and was always entertaining. It was her daughter Frances who read the Bible through before she was five years of age. I have since verified the statement. You have heard us tell how Frances was on a visit at our house when she was seven. She was trying to fasten her apron, and mother offered help. She said, "No, much as ever I can do it myself."



ROBERT AND SALLY EAGER STARKWEATHER

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CHAPTER III.

FIFTH GENERATION.

E. (v.) Dr. Robert Starkweather, brother of the preceding, was born in Stonington, Conn., Sept. 6, 1765. Having acquired a good education, he went to Worthington, and studied medicine with his brother Ezra. In the year 1787 he married Sally Eager, daughter of Nahum and Sara Jennison Eager. They settled in Chesterfield. Their children were *Rodney*, *Laura*, *Orpha*, *Horace*. Two died in infancy. The fine residence you have often seen was built about the year 1821. I wish I could describe, dear Helen, the grand old home as I remember it in my childhood. My honored grandfather was dignified,—a man of strong personality,—and often sarcastic. It is said

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that in early life he was inclined to be overbearing as a husband, but, as I remember them, no husband could be more attentive or affectionate to a wife than was he. He always wore a velvet vest and a ruffled shirt, and how well I remember how patiently my grandmother laid the plaits in ironing the ruffles. She preferred to do this herself, though the maid could do the other ironing. They always kept a man of all work. He cared for the horses and waited on "Mister Doctor" in all necessary ways, for they always maintained a certain amount of style, not altogether common in those early days, especially in a country town. My grandfather had a large practice among a widely scattered population, and was often called to neighboring towns as counsel. He rode mainly on horseback, or in a gig or chaise. He often slept when on the back of his faithful horse. They always had a fine garden

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of beautiful flowers. Beds were bordered with moss pinks. They had a great abundance of the choicest fruit, and their well-spread table was never lacking in any luxury it was possible to obtain. They took their breakfast about nine in the morning. Their dinner was at three or a little later, and they had no supper. But these meals were *fine* beyond description and very carefully served. The children and grandchildren were invited home for Thanksgiving. The turkey was cooked before the fire. It was hung from a cord in the ceiling, and a pan was underneath. It was supposed to have superior flavor from being cooked in this way.

My grandmother was industrious and patient and kind. She did not often come over to see us, and was seldom away from the home she loved so well. She was one of the best cooks and the best housekeepers I have ever known. She had two brothers,

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William and Nathaniel, and one sister, Mrs. Dolly Gove, of whom she was very fond. Aunt Dolly lived in Plainfield. Her daughter Faith married Dr. Joy, of Philadelphia, who was a widower and the father of Miss Julia Joy, of whom you have often heard your mother speak. Mrs. Joy was a lovely woman and had an interesting family. My grandmother lived to be eighty-one, and died February, 1853.

With characteristic thoughtfulness my grandfather, thinking he might first be called, kept in his desk nearly two thousand dollars in gold, thinking it would be handy for his wife in this manner to meet current expenses, if left alone without him. In these times we would not think it wise or safe to keep so much gold in the desk in your sleeping-room, but burglars were not known or feared in those early days, I suppose. After the death of my grandmother, my grandfather most gen-

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erously and kindly divided this gold coin among his grandchildren. I well remember how pleased and thankful I was when my father came to Waterville in 1853, and brought the little bag of gold from my dear grandfather as a most welcome gift. After the death of my grandmother, my grandfather lived more than five years. He was tenderly cared for by one of his wife's nieces and a faithful housekeeper. He died May 8, 1858, nearly ninety-three. By his will the fine home, with much surrounding land, was given to his grandson, Oliver Edwards, presumably on account of his having been a lifelong cripple. The furniture was to be divided among the grandchildren. It was from this division that your mother obtained the elegant mahogany table in your parlor, and several chairs, and the desk in the upper hall, also the green veil your mother values as a relic.

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My grandparents lived together after their marriage about sixty-six years, and, when my father was sixty-five years old, he had both a father and mother living, and, when he was seventy, he still had a father living.



RODNEY STARKWEATHER

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CHAPTER IV.

SIXTH GENERATION.

F. I. Dr. Rodney Starkweather was born February, 1788. He attended school in Chesterfield and also in Northampton. It was customary in those times for ministers to receive students in their families. He went to Plainfield, and studied with Rev. Moses Halleck, where he was fitted for college. He was at Williams College two or three years, but did not graduate, as he was anxious to get at his profession. He studied medicine in his father's office. He went to Fabius, N.Y., in 1812. Here he acquired a pleasant home and a good practice. He returned to Massachusetts in the winter of 1815, and on his birthday, February 8, he married my beautiful mother, Jane Starkweather, who

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was born in Northampton, Jan. 14, 1794. He returned to Fabius with his bride, having driven both ways with his own horse and sleigh, as public conveyances were almost unknown. Their children, Charles Robert, and Julia, were born in Fabius. In 1820 they decided to return to Chesterfield, as my grandfather urged them strongly to do, as he *imagined* he was anxious to give up his practice and wanted my father to step into it. To my father's great disappointment, his father seemed more active and energetic than ever, and with increasing eagerness was ready to visit the sick by day or by night. About this time he built the fine residence, and also built and furnished an office equal to any in Hampshire County. Our parents had left a pleasant home and a good income, and naturally felt greatly discouraged. His parents, however, were kind and generous, and they found it pleas-

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ant to be near their relatives and also to be so near my mother's family in Northampton. My father gradually turned his attention to farming in connection with his medical practice.

II. Father's sister Laura married Oliver Edwards, June, 1815. He was a merchant and a native of Chesterfield. Their children were Sara, Franklin, Oscar, Oliver, Laura, Eliza, and Ellen. They built the fine house in 1820 which they occupied during their lives, and which was consumed by fire in the fall of 1898. Aunt Laura Edwards died September, 1869, aged seventy-eight.

1. Sara S. Edwards married John Wilson in 1842. They lived in Northampton and in Philadelphia, where she died in January, 1880. She left three daughters, Alison Wilson Carnes, Anna Wilson Simons, and Sara Wilson Smiley. Franklin Edwards died in Northampton in 1841 aged twenty-two.

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2. Oscar Edwards married Kate Wendal, of Albany. They lived in Northampton. He is president of the bank. They have two daughters, Fannie and Mary, and two sons.

3. Oliver Edwards, Jr., was born 1823. He lost the use of his lower limbs early in life, and was never able to walk. He was remarkably kind and generous, and cheerfully bore his great affliction. He was twice married. He took possession of the fine home after the death of his grandfather, in May, 1858, who had given him the property by will. The children of Oliver Edwards are Robert, Oliver, Carrie, Edith, and Harry.

4. Laura E. was born in 1827. She married Jennison Eager in 1857. They lived in Northampton and in New York. He died in New York, May, 1871. She died suddenly of heart failure, Christmas, 1897. Their children are: Jennison, who died 1896;

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Louise, born December, 1861; Oliver, born July, 1863.

5. Eliza Edwards, born November, 1829, married William Fulton. They lived in Brooklyn, N.Y. Their children are William and Lillian. William was born in August, 1852. He came to Waterbury, and your father gave him a position at Holmes, Booth & Hayden's. After his marriage to Miss Ida Lewis he became connected with the foundry. He is having a successful career as a business man and a leading citizen. Lillian married Mr. Watson. They live in Brooklyn.

III. Orpha Starkweather was born April, 1794. She married Emmons Putney. They lived in Goshen. No children. She died July, 1865.

IV. Horace Starkweather was born August, 1799. He was educated at Williams College, and afterwards studied medicine.

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He married Electa Nims, of Deerfield, in 1835. They moved to Kalamazoo, Mich., then a small town. He was a man of strong personality, a successful physician, and a man greatly respected in the community. He died in the spring of 1854. They had one daughter, Sara, who was born in 1835. She was a very bright and intelligent woman, and greatly beloved. She married Charles Cobb in 1853. They had one daughter, Lucy, who married Jesse Minor, of Waterbury. They had one daughter, Frances, born in 1891. Mrs. Lucy Cobb Minor died in Waterbury in the summer of 1894. Her mother, Mrs. Sara S. Cobb, died in Kalamazoo, March 18, 1871. Aunt Electa left *one* daughter, Sara. Cousin Sara died at the early age of thirty-six, leaving *one* daughter, Lucy, who died at about the same age, thirty-six, leaving *one* daughter, Frances.

(I.) Children of Dr. Rodney and Mrs.



JANE S. BALDWIN, MARTHA S. CHASE AND HENRY STARKWEATHER
1906

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Jane S.: Charles Robert was born in Fabius, N.Y., May 8, 1815; Julia A. was born in Fabius, February, 1820. The two children came with their parents in July, 1820, to reside in Chesterfield, Mass. May 10, 1824, I was added to the number; Henry S. was born Aug. 29, 1826; Martha, your beloved mother, was born April 8, 1830.

1. We never lived long together in the dear old home, as brother Charles went away when quite young. He attended the select schools of our town, and, when he was fifteen, he attended the academy at Wilbraham. He was a fine scholar. He, however, chose a business career, and went to Westfield as a clerk in Jessup's store, at the age of sixteen, where he remained two years, when he found a position at "No. 2 Maiden Lane," New York, in a dry-goods store. He went to Chicago, 1838, where were living his old friends, Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Laflin.

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From the first Charles had great faith in the growth of Chicago, and decided to make it his permanent home. He returned to Chesterfield for a visit, and on Sept. 13, 1841, he married Mary H. Eager, of Worthington. As the law of the State of Massachusetts at that time required that the "intentions of marriage" must be published three weeks in advance, and my brother was anxious to return speedily to Chicago, they were married at Lebanon Springs, N.Y., the two families going with them there to witness the marriage ceremony. Railroads were rare at this time, and it required several days for them to reach Chicago. Charles had a position in the post-office, which he held for several years, and where he did valuable service as assistant postmaster. He and his wife were deeply interested in church work, and were warm friends of Dr. Paterson. Brother Charles early made investment in

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real estate in Chicago, which proved the basis of his large fortune,—at least large for early times. Their first home was a small house on State Street, where were spent, in some respects, the happiest years of their lives. Ralph was born there, June 15, 1844. With increasing wealth the family seemed restless and ambitious.

In the spring of 1845 Mary, with her child and nurse, came East for the summer, and, as it proved, for a year. In October her daughter Julia was born at her father's in Worthington. She had a long and severe illness, and was feeble all winter. In the spring she returned to Chicago with Ralph and Julia, and her sister Lucy went with them, the wife having been absent from her home and husband a year. The small house was soon abandoned for a finer home at 102 Michigan Avenue. Mary, however, came East every year or two for longer

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or shorter visits. In 1847 they rented a fine house in Northampton, where they kept house several years.

Their older children were early sent away from home to boarding-schools. a. Ralph fitted for college at the East, and graduated at Williams College in 1866. b. Julia was at Lake Forest for years, and later was in the family of Rev. Dr. Henry Field, of New York, for two years, where she had superior advantages socially as well as in the way of education. c. Charles Huntington was born in Chicago, Jan. 24, 1848; d. Chauncey Clark was born Nov. 7, 1851; e. Frank Henry was born in Chicago, July 15, 1853; f. Walter Graden was born in Chicago, April 3, 1855, he died Aug. 25, 1856; g. Jane was born in Chicago, June 30, 1856.

(g.) Jane was a child of rare beauty and intelligence. When she was about four years of age, a spinal difficulty was discovered

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slight at first, but it yielded to no medical treatment. She was in New York for two or three years, and treated by the most celebrated surgeons. She manifested wonderful courage and patience, and greatly endeared herself to her family and friends by her sweet and lovely character. All that love or money could do was done for the dear child. She gradually failed during the summer, and, on Sept. 28, 1864, she died at Morristown, N.J. The parents were with her, and the scattered children all arrived at Morristown in time for the funeral. She was buried by the side of her little brother at Rose Hill Cemetery, Chicago.

(h.) Douglas S. was born in Northampton, Mass., June 17, 1858. His death in Chicago, July 7, 1867, was caused by a fall from the steps at his home to the basement below. He lived but one-half hour, and was unconscious. He was a remarkably bright and

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affectionate boy, and his tragic death was a great affliction to the family and friends.

Less than two months after the sudden death of Douglas a still more overwhelming affliction awaited the family. The husband and father was taken from them after a few days' illness, the nature of which it was hard to determine. Chauncey and Frank were at our house in Maumee. We received a telegram asking their immediate return. We hurried them to Chicago by the first train, but they were too late to see their father living. He died Tuesday evening, Aug. 27, 1867. The day preceding his physicians informed him of his serious condition. He sent for his lawyer, and made his will. His words to his family were most tender, and he left messages to his absent loved ones; especially to our mother he sent the words, "Tell mother it is easy to die." He talked freely of his readiness to

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submit to God's will. Your Uncle Henry, my mother, and I attended the funeral, held Thursday afternoon in the church. His pastor, Rev. Dr. Paterson, was in Europe, and another minister officiated at the service, which was largely attended. The burial service was conducted by the Masons, and was very impressive. We all greatly regretted your dear mother could not be with us at Chicago, but the telegrams sent her were delayed, and it was impossible for her and your father to attend the funeral of our brother. His death was my *first great sorrow*. In our earlier years the affection was strong between us. After I finished school, he arranged to have me spend a year or more with them in Chicago, and after my marriage his visits were frequent, especially after our parents and brother Henry settled in Waterville. He gave great help and encouragement to my husband

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in his work among the feeble churches. I take pleasure in paying this tribute of gratitude and affection to the memory of my beloved "Elder Brother."

The Christmas after the death of the father the only daughter, Julia, was married to Mr. E. G. Mason. They built a house on Michigan Avenue. Her mother bought a home opposite. Her health was feeble,—indeed she had never been a vigorous woman. Her sister Lucy was with her fifteen years, until her marriage to Mr. Morgan in the fall of 1863. Lucy took charge of the house to a great extent, and of the children, and Mary was thus relieved from care and anxiety. After the death of my brother, Mary lived only a little more than three years, the last year being one of failing health. She went South in the winter, but consumption had marked her for its victim. She was confined to the house most of the summer,

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and on Oct. 4, 1870, she passed away with cheerful resignation and blessed hope.

2. Julia A. S. was the second child of Dr. Rodney and Mrs. Jane Starkweather. She was born in Fabius, N.Y., February, 1820. When she was six months old, the parents removed to Chesterfield, Mass., with their two children, Charles and Julia. Your aunt Julia was a lovely child, gentle and unselfish. She was gifted by nature with a fine mind, and her ambition to acquire useful knowledge was without a limit. She attended the select schools of our town and went to Westfield Academy, and in 1836 she was at Miss Draper's Seminary in Hartford, where she made rapid advancement. Afterwards she taught select schools in Chesterfield with great success, and was preceptress in a seminary in Amsterdam, N.Y., for some years. She was in Boston with our uncle and aunt more or less. She was married to Rev.

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Royal Reed Jan. 7, 1846. In 1848 they removed to Joliet, Ill., where he became pastor of a Presbyterian church. They remained in Joliet fifteen years. He had, however, decided to become a specialist in medical work. They removed to Chicago in 1863. Your aunt Julia taught music, of which she was always extremely fond. She was an active Christian woman, and useful in all possible ways. Depending too much on her great power of endurance, she over-exerted herself, causing serious illness. Her self-sacrificing and beautiful life ended peacefully July, 1874, in her fifty-fourth year.

3. I was born in Chesterfield, May 10, 1824. The first event of my life that I distinctly remember was the birth of your dear mother, though events of earlier date float on my mind. I was spending a few days at "Aunt Nancy's" in Worthington, when my father

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came for me. He told me I had a little sister at home. I could hardly believe it was true, for I was so filled with joy. He carried me home in his gig, and I ran to the house in eager haste. I went to my mother's room, and I saw the sweet baby, its little head covered with curls of beautiful hair. I snatched the child in my loving arms, and ran across the room with it, the nurse, in fear and surprise, running after me, but I held the treasure so tightly that I have often heard mother say that she could not take it from me without endangering the life of the baby. So she yielded the point, and let me hold her for a while. The next year, when your mother was one year old, I rocked her to sleep day by day in my arms, though it seems now that I was quite a young nurse, but I *loved* her so.

Like my brothers and sisters, I was fond of study. I attended our excellent select

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schools and went to Westfield Academy, as we kept up our acquaintance with the Jessup family and I boarded with them. In the fall of 1840 I entered Mount Holyoke Seminary. In 1843 I went to Chicago, and was there more than a year. Afterwards I made long visits at my uncle's in Boston. They had no children, and I enjoyed being with them, and also the many opportunities for improvement my residence in Boston afforded. In the fall of 1849 I went to Defiance, Ohio, to take charge of a school.

In January, 1850, I was married to Rev. P. C. Baldwin, a native of Asheville, N.C. He became pastor of a church in Waterville, where we bought a dear little home. The fact of our locating in Waterville proved to be an important event in the family history, for three years later my brother Henry bought a home near us, which he still occu-

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pies, and, what was still more surprising, my parents decided to sell the home in Chesterfield, and, in order to be near their children, they bought the house nearly opposite our own, much to our gratification and joy. We lived in Waterville nine years. Mr. Baldwin had preached in Wood County in connection with his work in Waterville. Finding great difficulty and peril in fording the river, he yielded to the solicitations of the Bowling Green church to move there and live among his people. We regretted exceedingly to leave our loved parents and brother and the church, but it seemed for the best. A few years later we found a home in Maumee, which was nearer our Waterville friends. Mr. Baldwin was now appointed by the Presbytery to a more general missionary work. He was earnest and energetic, and accomplished a great work in organizing churches and building

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houses of worship. He contributed to the religious papers, and was the author of two books, and had another nearly ready for the press when he was called to lay down his work. His last illness was long and very distressing, but it was borne without a murmur. He passed away July, 1892.

Four of our children, Charles, Julia, Sara, and William, were born in Waterville.

a. Charles Rodney was born Jan. 22, 1851]. He was fond of study in his childhood. When he was thirteen, his uncle Charles advised his fitting for college at a seminary in Illinois, and kindly paid his expenses. Charlie boarded in the family of the principal, who was a warm friend of his father. He improved these superior advantages diligently. He entered college at the age of sixteen, graduating with high honor. He went directly to Waterbury, where your father kindly gave him a position in the bank and

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your dear mother took him into her family for a few months. He then went to the Scovill House, where he boarded for most of the twenty years he remained in Waterbury. After leaving Waterbury, he spent six years in London, and now lives in New York.

b. Julia Adelaide was born Sept. 13, 1852. She lived with her grandmother a good deal in her childhood after we moved to Bowling Green. She afterwards attended a seminary in Monroe one year. She entered the Western Seminary at Oxford, and graduated in June, 1874. She was successful in her studies, and in painting she excelled. She married Mr. John M. Nichols, May 4, 1876. Their home was in Columbus, Ohio. The beloved husband died of heart failure, Jan. 27, 1894. His sudden death was a severe shock to the devoted wife and to his large circle of friends. In the summer of 1895 Julia went to Europe with Columbus friends.

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In 1898 she came East, and kept house for her brother Chauncey. In 1903 she went to Europe with her aunt Martha and yourself and Alice, visiting Rome, Venice, Florence, Naples, Paris, and London, and other places of interest.

Julia and her mother received a most kind and generous invitation to go to California with your mother and yourself and Alice. The great expense seemed appalling to us, but, when the round-trip tickets reached us at Perth Amboy, we most gladly and gratefully accepted. The 8th of February, 1905, we went to New York, and left in the afternoon train for our long trip. Besides your mother and yourself and Alice and Maggie, there were Miss Helen Smith and Irving and his three friends. Our journey was in all respects delightful. We arrived at Pasadena Sunday evening. Alice and Irving and their friends went to

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San Francisco, and from there sailed for Japan. We were absent about thirteen weeks and reached Perth Amboy May 10, feeling very grateful to the friends who had enabled us to take the delightful journey and see the wonders of California.

c. Sara was born May 6, 1855. She had a sweet and happy disposition, and in her childhood, as in later years, always looked on the bright side. In the fall of 1870, when she was fifteen, your parents most kindly planned for her to enter Western Seminary. It was with great pleasure we accepted their kindness, and she went early in October. She was delighted with her new surroundings, and all went well with her till the terrible experience of April 7, when the seminary buildings were consumed by fire. Sara and her room-mate were among the last to leave the burning building, as they vainly tried to escape from the window

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by tying their bedding together. The halls were filled with smoke, and they were in the fourth story. They tied wet towels over their eyes, and made the descent in safety, though entirely exhausted. When they reached the ground, kind friends took our dear child to their home and lent her suitable clothing for her return home. We had been promptly informed by telegraph of her safety. It was a matter of devout thankfulness to the teachers and friends of the institution that no lives were lost in the awful calamity, although several pupils were seriously injured. How rejoiced were our hearts when we had the dear child once more at home, and how grateful to Him who had preserved her precious life in the midst of such terrible peril! The insurance on the building was considerable. Contributions, large and small, came pouring in, and many workmen were set at work. The seminary

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was rebuilt with many improvements, and was reopened in the fall, when Sara returned, and Julia went with her. After Sara had spent three years at Oxford, your parents proposed that she come to St. Margaret's for her last year of school. She came to Waterbury early in October, 1873. This year in Waterbury was, perhaps, the happiest in her life. The next June I came East for her, and we went to Northampton and Chesterfield together. She attended the wedding at Belchertown of her cousin Will Starkweather and Eva Longley. Her cousin Julia Mason invited her to Chicago, where she spent several months most pleasantly.

On July 12, 1877, she was married, by her father, to Mr. W. H. Dodge, a graduate of Western Reserve College. They are both greatly interested in Christian work, and mainly through their influence a church has been built at New Lyme and a parsonage

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donated. Your mother is greatly interested, and helps the church, year by year, by her generous contribution. Sara is greatly attached to her Waterbury aunt and cousins, and enjoys her occasional visits to the friends she loves so well. They have two sons, Carl and Harry, both married.

d. William Henry Baldwin was born July 27, 1857. He studied dentistry after leaving school, and opened an office in Delta, Ohio. He was married, by his father, to Miss Caddie Huntington in June, 1881. They have been greatly afflicted in the death of three beautiful children. William was a successful dentist, but his health failed, and after months of serious illness he died in Delta, March, 1901. He left a sorrowful widow and one daughter, Julia, born in Delta, March 11, 1884. Your mother kindly interested herself in them. She helped pay Julia's expenses at Lake Erie College for a time,

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but her course of study was interrupted by the protracted illness of the mother. Julia is now a teacher in Delta and an active and faithful church and Sabbath-school worker, as was her beloved father.

e. Chauncey Clark Baldwin was born in Maumee, June, 1866. After he graduated at New Lyme, he came directly to Waterbury. Mr. Wade had offered him work in the clock factory. He remained here a few months, when a position was given him at Ansonia, in the Wallace Mills, where he remained eleven years, or till the mills changed hands. He was superintendent of the wire department. He invented machinery which has been a source of profit to him. In the spring of 1898 he invited his sister Julia to keep house for him in Elizabeth, N.J. In 1902 they removed to Perth Amboy. Chauncey was married on Feb. 1, 1906, in Philadelphia, to Caroline Chandler.

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4. Your uncle Henry Starkweather was born in Chesterfield, Mass., Aug. 29, 1826. When not in school, he was industrious and faithful, and helpful to his father and a great favorite with his grandparents. Not desiring, however, to settle in Chesterfield, he gladly accepted the offer of his brother Charles of a place in the post-office, and in October, 1846, he left home for Chicago. In the summer of 1852 he suddenly planned to make me a little visit, in Waterville. I was surprised and delighted to see him,—so unexpectedly, too. We had months previously invited Miss Mary Elizabeth Woodbury to live with us and attend school. She was the youngest daughter of a deceased minister, and her mother had recently died. Mary was a sweet and lovable girl. We noticed your uncle was quite attentive to her while he was with us, and his subsequent letters contained frequent messages to Mary.

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In the fall Mary and her sister received invitations from a wealthy aunt in Illinois to visit her and to enter a seminary at Galesburg. This was your uncle's opportunity, for he planned to meet the girls at the station in Chicago, and take them to his brother's house. This second meeting sealed the fate of the young lovers. When the sisters returned to Ohio the next summer, your uncle came with his beloved, and his second visit to Waterville proved almost as eventful as was his first. He found a fruit farm near us was for sale, and he almost decided to make the purchase as he was tired of the confinement of his post-office work and had decided to make a change. Father and mother had just sold their home in Chesterfield, and were in Chicago. They came to Waterville, and were pleased with your uncle's selection and at once occupied the house. The next spring your grand-

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father bought the house nearly opposite our home. The 20th of October, 1853, your uncle Henry and Mary Elizabeth Woodbury were married by Rev. P. C. Baldwin. A few weeks after their marriage your uncle took his young bride to Chicago, resuming for the winter his old position in the post-office. They returned home early in April, and his parents moved into their newly bought home, having ordered their household goods sent from Chesterfield. Your uncle and aunt were well pleased with their home and its surroundings. They both united with our little church, and were active and useful members. Children came to brighten and gladden the happy home. In the fall of 1857 your uncle brought his young and charming wife to Waterbury. They also went to Northampton and Chesterfield.

All these years we noticed in your aunt a tendency to throat disease, and we were the

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more anxious about it, as her parents and two sisters had died from similar complaints. In the fall of 1867 her condition became more serious, and she lost her voice and could speak only in a whisper. She continued to ride and walk, however, for a month or more, when she could not swallow solid food. She was soon confined to her room, and had a faithful nurse and physician. A few days before her death a feeble child was born. It lived only a few weeks. Your aunt was patient and cheerful in this great affliction, and died in blessed hope, Dec. 20, 1867. She bade her devoted husband good-bye, and gave to each child a memento. The family received great sympathy and attention from their many friends. The children of Henry and Mary Woodbury Starkweather were Martha, Horace, Frank, Nellie, and Jane.

a. Mattie was born Sept. 22, 1854. She

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was a bright and attractive child. The fall she was nine years old she went to Joliet for several months to take music lessons of her aunt Julia. A year after the death of her mother your parents kindly invited her to come to Waterbury for a permanent home. Her father came with her, and remained about two months. Mattie was here until her marriage, with the exception of one year which she spent at her father's in Waterville. She was married in Waterville, by Rev. P. C. Baldwin, Sept. 20, 1877. You and your mother were at her wedding.

b. Horace was born Oct. 4, 1856. After the death of his mother he was invited by cousin Sara L. Cobb to find a home in her family in Kalamazoo. Most kindly was he cared for, and remained with them until the sad death of Cousin Sara. He went to Texas in 1875. He has a wife and three daughters.

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c. Frank was born April, 1861. He was a kind and affectionate boy. He never seemed to recover from the terrible loss of his dear mother. When he was sixteen, he went to Texas to live with his brother. He was inclined to consumption, and he needed a warmer climate. He has a wife and four children.

d. Nellie was born in April, 1863. She was a delicate and sweet little girl. She attended the Seminary at Monroe. October, 1882, she was married to Fred. W. Van Fleet by her uncle Baldwin. They lived in Bowling Green, and now live in Carey. They have three daughters and one son.

e. Jenny was born Jan. 29, 1866. She lived with her grandparents for two years after her mother's sickness. They were greatly attached to her. Her grandfather left a sum of money for her education. She attended the university at Delaware. She

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taught school at Waterville, and in 1885 she came to Waterbury, where she had a position as teacher in St. Margaret's Seminary for three years. She married B. F. Myers, May, 1889.

June, 1869, your uncle (4) Henry married Miss Mary Wood. The similarity in the names of the two wives was remarkable. She was the daughter of Major Henry Wood. They had three children: Harry, born in 1875; Fred, born 1880; Will was born 1881. They are all business men. Fred came to Waterbury with his father, October, 1906.

5. Martha S., the youngest child of Dr. Rodney and Mrs. Jane Starkweather, was born April 8, 1830. She was the sweetest, dearest baby in the world; at least she seemed so to us. She had curls all over her head, and was "as pretty as a doll." As she grew older, she was bright and unusually intelligent, and early learned to read and to write.



MARTHA S. CHASE

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She was very fond of flowers, and took great pleasure in having a bed of her own. She early developed a fondness for music, in which she so much delighted all the years of her life. The spring she was eleven years old sister Julia gave her regular lessons, and your mother was diligent and faithful practising the difficult exercises. This year's training laid the foundation of your mother's success in piano-playing. She attended our select schools and went to school at Northampton, and, like her sisters, went also to Westfield Academy. Wherever she went, she made warm friends, who were attracted by her sweet and lovely personality.

In the fall of 1849 she went to Chicago to make the visit she had long looked forward to with greatest pleasure. Having spent some weeks in our brother Charles's family, she went to Joliet to visit sister Julia, and was there most of the winter. She returned

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to Chicago for a visit and there met our mother. Together they came to Waterville, and visited me in my new home. Your mother then went to Kalamazoo, and had a delightful visit with Uncle Horace and Aunt Electa and their charming daughter, Sara. On her way homeward she again visited our cousins, Mr. and Mrs. Rodman Starkweather, at Buffalo. In all these places your mother formed warm and lasting friendships, and she was greatly admired and beloved.

You have often heard her relate the circumstances of her coming to Waterbury, in the spring of 1851. Calling at Mrs. Bryant's, she casually inquired where Eleanor and her husband were living at present. She was told in "Waterbury, Conn." She said, "Ask Eleanor if they do not want a music-teacher there." She hardly remembered asking the question, when Mrs. Bryant, a

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few days later, informed her that Eleanor had written of a vacancy she could fill. What important events sometimes occur from apparently trifling causes! Especially was it so in this case. Your mother came to Waterbury, May 5, 1851. Mr. and Mrs. Thayer were boarding at the Scovill House, and your mother boarded there with them, reviving the old cousinly friendship. Mrs. Clara Dickinson Merrill was associated with your mother in teaching, and their intimacy continued till Mrs. Merrill died in Milwaukee.

In 1853 your uncle Charles visited Waterbury a day or two, and then took your mother with him to New York, where they spent the Sabbath and went to Henry Ward Beecher's church, and were delighted with his sermon. They went to Philadelphia to see their friends, the Jessups. Clara was married to a very wealthy and distinguished

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man, Mr. Bloomfield Moore. They invited your mother to remain with them a few days, and your mother was well pleased with the many kind attentions they paid her.

Your father and mother had a long, warm friendship, which culminated in a marriage engagement. She went to Ohio, in March, 1854. They were married the 7th of the next September by her brother-in-law, Rev. P. C. Baldwin. How distinctly I remember the beautiful simple wedding! Your father drove from Toledo early in the week. They were married on Thursday at ten o'clock. Your lovely mother wore a simple white dress. A more handsome "bride and groom" are seldom seen, and how radiantly happy! They drove to Toledo in the afternoon, in the carriage in which your father came. Their bridal trip was to Niagara and Montreal, and at Northampton they had a most pleasant visit with uncles, aunts and cousins. Re-

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turning to Waterbury, they boarded for a few months before going to housekeeping.

In September, 1855, mother came for a visit, and remained until some time after the birth of Harry. The spring following your mother took baby Harry to Waterville, having a hard and disagreeable journey. In August, 1858, she took both Harry and Irving to Ohio. What an effort she must have made to visit her parents with children so young! and the ease in travelling in those days was far less than at the present time. She was so loyal and devoted to her parents that she did not mind her own inconvenience and discomfort. She seldom allowed more than two or three years to pass without her seeing them. In the fall of 1869 she came at once, when she learned by telegraph of mother's illness. She remained more than a month, and watched dear mother with unceasing care till the end

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came, October 23d. When dear father died in April, 1872, your mother came to the funeral. She came again to Waterville with you when Mattie was married.

No words can convey what a source of comfort was your mother to her parents in their declining years through her letters and her visits, nor can words reveal how much she did for her sister and brother and their children!—all of which is held in grateful and loving remembrance. Your mother was sincere and responsive in her friendships. Her fund of ready wit, coupled with a warm social nature, made her very entertaining in society and a great favorite among a large circle of friends. Her sympathy and aid to the needy and afflicted, her untiring devotion to the church, her generous gifts to benevolent and charitable work, were among the remarkable traits in her character.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Chase



AUGUSTUS S. CHASE

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are Harry, Irving, Helen, Fred, Mary, and Alice. All ably fill places of great responsibility and influence and, like their parents, are helpful and interested in every good work.

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CHAPTER V.

THE FAMILY OF MY MOTHER.

D. Joel Starkweather,* born in Stonington, Conn., June, 1724, married Jane C. Trumbull, August, 1750. They settled in Mansfield, Conn.

E. Charles Starkweather, son of Joel and Jane S., was born in Mansfield, April 29, 1759. He enlisted in the War of the Revolution, and served under General Gates at Saratoga, in 1777. He afterwards taught school. He visited a friend in Northampton, Mass. They attended church together, and after the service, he spoke of two young ladies he had noticed who seemed to be sisters. The friend told him who they were, and that they might call on them in the evening, as he was well acquainted with

* See page 9.

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them. The names of the young ladies were Mary and Martha Kingsley. The result of this incidental call was an engagement to marry Miss Mary, but, much to the sorrow of the young lover, death prevented the marriage. However, as would seem quite natural, after a suitable time he sought the love of the remaining sister, Martha, and they were married May 31, 1787. He at once took up his abode in the home of his bride and her widowed mother. The Kingsley estate was large, and increased in value from year to year. One son and four daughters were born. Seventeen happy years passed away, when the beloved wife and mother was taken away by death, and her aged mother was bereaved of her only child. The death was peculiarly sad and pathetic. The daughters proved faithful and efficient. Mary, the oldest, was only fifteen, but with rare ability she took charge

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of the family. Her aged grandmother, overcome by the loss of her only remaining child, was a great addition to the care and labor of the grand-daughters. She lived to an advanced age, and lost her memory and reason.

In the old cemetery in Northampton are still the moss-covered gravestones of the Kingsley family. The inscriptions are hardly legible, but my cousin had the stones cleaned, and the following lines were found on the large slab over the graves of the children:—

“Four hopeful sons,
Two daughters fair,
Their parents’ hope,
Their parents’ care,
Soon took their flight,
By Heaven’s decree,
Into a vast Eternity.”

Above these lines are carved six faces across the top. I suppose this stone must have been erected soon after the death of my

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grandmother, as she was the last to die of the six children. The childless widow lived ten years after her husband and her six dear children had passed away. The grand-daughters were industrious and remarkably intelligent. In addition to their care of the family and their household duties, they became finely educated. The sampler my mother made at the early age of nine years, that your sister Mary has, and also the work of Aunt Martha, made about the same time, which hangs in a frame in your room, are both fine specimens of patient labor and artistic taste. Mrs. Martha Kingsley Starkweather died May 9, 1804, aged forty-two.

In 1811 my grandfather was married to Miss Roxanna Graves, of Hatfield. She was a woman of excellent judgment and devout piety, and the family life continued to move on harmoniously. The daughters now had a better opportunity to pursue their studies.

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F. 4. My mother, Jane Starkweather, was the third daughter of Charles and Martha K. S. She was born Jan. 4, 1794. She was said to be a child of rare beauty and remarkable intelligence. At the early age of nine she was deprived of her mother by death, and she has often told me of her excessive grief over her loss. At the age of sixteen she went to Chesterfield, and taught the school in the district where Mr. and Mrs. Levi Bryant now live. She told us she often walked to her cousins' home after school at night, and her cousin Rodney would go home with her. She taught school successfully in Northampton. She was a fine singer, and sang for years in the choir of which her father was the leader and her brother and sisters were members.

Indeed, I do not think there has been a time since my grandfather settled in Northampton, in 1787, to the present, when



JANE STARKWEATHER

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he or some of his descendants were not connected with the choir of the First Congregational Church. These entire families of the four generations have been members of the old church. Several of these persons have filled the office of deacon. It is quite remarkable that, without interruption for one hundred and twenty years, this family of Starkweather have aided this church, in the Sabbath-school, in the "service of song," and in financial support, and by their Christian examples. Let us remember, however, how *much more* the church has done for these families and these individuals than they have rendered in return, however faithful they have been. Who can estimate the spiritual blessings the church bestows by its divine appointment, its ministrations in sickness and bereavements, the uplifting and sanctifying power of its

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“Heavenly ways,
Its sweet communion, solemn vows,
Its hymns of love and praise.”

My mother was married in Northampton to Dr. Rodney Starkweather, Feb. 8, 1815. They went directly to his home in Fabius, N.Y., which in the early times seemed a long distance. They returned to my father's early home in Chesterfield in the summer of 1820. It has been said that the father is the *head* of the family and the mother is the *heart* of the family. It was exceptionally so in the home of our childhood. Father was kind-hearted, and affectionate, but he was uncaressing in his manner, and was reserved and unsocial in family life. But to our blessed mother we could always tell our joys and sorrows. She was our companion as well as our constant teacher in all useful ways. In those times, children were not as prominent as at this later day. The duty of

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obedience and respect was faithfully inculcated. While the average child in those days was expected to follow the instruction of the old-time "nursery verse," in *our* family it was softened by the sweet gentleness and indulgence of our mother:—

"Speak when you are spoken to,
Come when you are called.
Shut the door after you,
And do as you are told."

This was the tone of the instruction most families imparted to their children. But *our* home was happy, and we were free from undue restraint. Dear, kind, patient, tender mother! I can think of nothing left undone that she was able to do for the welfare and happiness of her children. She read to us and told us pleasing stories. She taught us hymns and prayers. She was always cheerful and fond of company, and was

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entertaining to the young or the old, and our home was the resort of the cousins in Northampton and Worthington. Stranger ministers and lecturers were always greeted with a warm welcome. We were early taught the love of nature, and the grand old hills were regarded with awe and affection; and how often we went to the "big rock," near which a wealthy man from Holyoke has recently built a fine summer home, selecting it as having the finest view of any point in the vicinity!

The large barn that is still on the place my father built in 1832. When your mother was two years old, one of the carpenters saw the little tot walking fearlessly on the timbers over the deep cellar. He walked cautiously behind, and caught her in his strong arms and carried her to the house. I well remember how thankful we were over her narrow escape from a most dangerous fall.

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She has told you how we all attended a lecture one evening in the school building by the church. The parents returned home, thinking our little sister would come with *us*, and we thought she was with *them* till we all reached home, and, to our dismay, found she was left behind. My sister and I hastened back, and found her on the seat "fast asleep." We were thankful she had not wakened and found herself alone in the dark building. She was only about seven years old, and was too young to attend lectures, as it now seems.

The winter of 1839 Clara Jessup boarded in our family and attended school with us. She was a beautiful girl of fifteen. Animal magnetism was the prevailing subject about that time. She had been frequently magnetized in Westfield, and your aunt Julia had also magnetized her. As she was a good subject, it was arranged that we should

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go with her one evening to Aunt Laura's and our teacher, who boarded there, would put her into a magnetic sleep. Several were invited. She went to sleep, as was expected, but, when he attempted to awaken her, he was unable to do so. He "reversed the motions," and tried every expedient to arouse her, but all in vain. She became rigid and cold, and was carried to Aunt Laura's bed, and father was immediately sent for. He ordered hot applications, and results were waited with great anxiety. She gradually revived after a few hours, but, to our great distress, we found she had in the excitement been terribly burned above the ankle. She remained there a day or two, till the burn healed so fully that she could be brought home, and that was the last experiment in mesmerism for the winter. I imagine the modern hypnotism is about the same thing.

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Our young friend, Clara Jessup, had a wonderful career. She married Bloomfield Moore in Philadelphia. He died young, leaving her and her daughter a fortune of seven millions. The daughter married a count, and had a short and unhappy life. The mother attained considerable fame as a writer. She lived in London and Italy. The papers said she was about to become the second wife of Robert Browning, when the death of the distinguished poet prevented the marriage. She gave your mother a book of her poems and her photograph when she was in Philadelphia. Our home was singularly and mercifully exempt from severe sicknesses and distressing accidents, and from the marriage of our parents in 1815 till the death of brother Charles in 1867 there was no death in the family, a period of more than fifty-two years.

The "old ancestral home" at South Street,

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Northampton, was a dear place to us in our earlier years. The house was built nearly two hundred years ago, and was occupied by our ancestors for several generations. We always felt free to go there, and our grandparents always seemed pleased to have us with them. It was a typical Christian home, and to me it seemed "the gate of heaven." From the family altar, morning and evening, arose the incense of prayer and thanksgiving. My grandfather read the Scripture, and his wife read from the Commentary. Both were greatly attached to the church, and gave freely to the support of Christian work, especially my grandmother, as she had considerable means of her own. She was stately and dignified in her appearance, and always handsomely dressed. She was kind and conciliatory in her nature. To be sure, when her husband once interrupted her, she was heard to say with some em-

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phasis, "Mr. Starkweather, *I'm* speaking now!" Nevertheless, she was a most loyal and affectionate wife and a woman of excellent judgment. She gave most of her money to "Foreign Missions" by her will.

My grandfather had great nobility of character. He was patriotic and public spirited, a useful and honored citizen. He had few of the infirmities of old age, and was strong and vigorous, often taking short journeys to Boston and elsewhere. His hair still retained its color of black; never becoming gray, it gave him a younger appearance. He was sick only a few days, and died July, 1843, aged eighty-four. Mrs. Roxanna Graves Starkweather died 1847, aged seventy-seven.

(F.) 1. Haynes Kingsley, always called Kingsley, was born May, 1788. He was the only son of Charles and Martha K. Starkweather of Northampton, Mass. He

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married Almira Merrick of Wilbraham. He soon after built a house near his father's with only a driveway between. Their son Charles Graves was born in 1819 and died in 1906. He married Sophia Merrick. They have three sons and one daughter, Emma. Frederick Merrick, born 1820, graduated at Amherst College. He studied theology in New York, and was licensed to preach. He died March, 1851. Haynes K. S., Jr., was born 1822. He married Martha Phelps of Belchertown. His son William was in the Waterbury bank for some time. He married Eva Longcey, and they went to California, where both died of consumption. His parents also died there. One son, Frank, is still living in San Francisco, where we saw him in 1905. Anna G. S. was born in 1824. She married W. H. Nowell in California. They returned to Northampton, where he died. Their daughter Myra died of consumption in

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1885. Alfred married Fanny Loomis. They moved to California, where she died. Myra died in 1862 of consumption (thirty-one years). Elizabeth married Aaron Breck. They moved to Kansas, where he died. She is still living in Lawrence, Kan. Their son Aaron is a clergyman, and studied theology at Yale. The children (as well as the father) in Uncle K.'s family were all fine singers, and music often enlivened the happy home in Northampton, both vocal and instrumental. Your mother spent many happy months in this delightful home in our earlier years, and the frequent visits we exchanged were greatly enjoyed.

(*F.*) 2. Martha S., daughter of Charles and Martha Starkweather, was born in 1791. She married Hon. Chauncey Clark, 1826. He was in the State Senate, afterwards was in the Custom House at Boston under George Bancroft (the historian) for twelve years, when

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they returned to Northampton in 1849. He died April, 1869, and my aunt died in September following. She divided several thousand dollars among her nieces and nephews by her will.

(*F.*) 3. Mary S. married Mr. Samuel Merrick and their daughter Anna married Rev. Samuel Goodale in 1852. She has a daughter Josephine, who has visited here with her mother.

(*F.*) 5. Sara Starkweather was born in Northampton, 1796. She married Rev. James Sanford, 1817. She died in Ware, Mass., 1869.

Aunt Mary Merrick and Aunt Sara Sanford and their families lived so far from us that we seldom saw them, but with our uncle Kingsley's family we were always on terms of most intimate friendship, and visits were often exchanged.

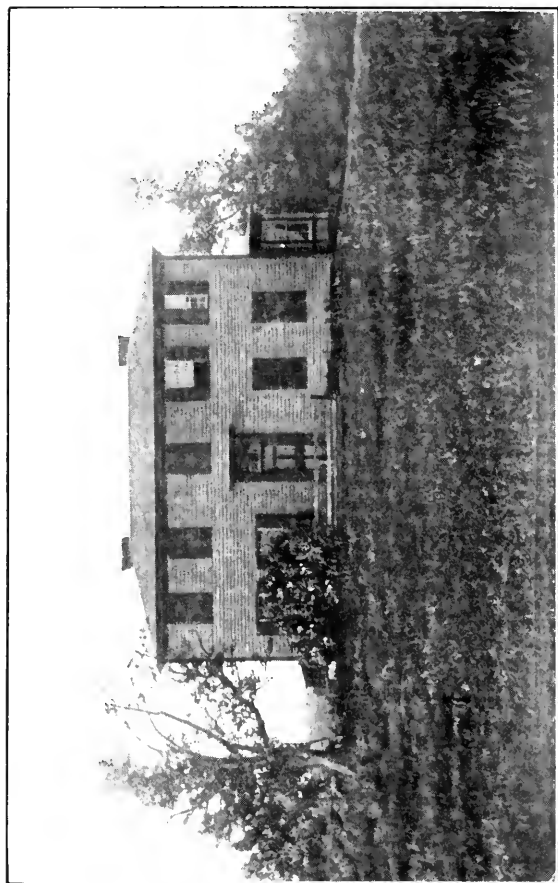
Merrick, the second son, was my most

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favorite cousin. He was in Amherst College when I was at Mount Holyoke, and we met occasionally and we corresponded often by letter. Nature gave him wonderful talent for music, which was cultivated with great diligence. This gave him great prominence in college and elsewhere. He could easily have made it a profession, had he desired, but from his boyhood he planned to enter the ministry, for which his temperament and deep piety eminently fitted him. His absorbing love for music gave him increased influence. The future looked bright before him. He had much to endear him to life. He was engaged to be married, and had become a pastor of a church. Soon, however, disappointment came, for weakness of the lungs developed. With wise precaution he resigned his church work, and returned to the dear home in Northampton. He re-

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ceived the best of medical skill and the kindest attention, but, with alternate hope and fear, the relentless disease progressed. With entire submission to God's will, he passed away in holy triumph and exultant joy. Just before the end came, the sorrowing family, including his fiancée, were around him. His invalid sister, Myra, taking his hand, said, "O Merrick, how *can* I live without you?" With a radiant smile, he said "*Christ* will be your Elder Brother." How mysterious that one so fitted for a useful life should be called away at the early age of thirty-one! His sister Myra to whom your mother was warmly attached died in 1862.



DR. RODNEY STARKWEATHER'S HOME IN CISTERFIELD

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CHAPTER VI.

GENERAL REFLECTIONS.

Strong and enduring are the love of our kindred and the pleasant associations of our earlier lives. The place of our birth always has a peculiar interest, and it is gratifying that the younger generations are attached to the dear old home on the hill-top. Even Elizabeth Kimball loves the moss rose-bush in the garden because "it came from Chesterfield," and she is anxious to visit the birthplace of her dear grandmother, a town of which she has heard so often and where her ancestors were among its most honored and useful citizens. The cool winds and the grand scenery make it a fine resort for the summer, but the winters are severe, beginning early and lingering late.

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I well remember the old "meeting-house," with the square pews and high pulpit and the sounding-board above it, and my childish fears that it might fall on the head of the minister! In the gallery, which was on three sides of the building, were two pews (or pens) on opposite sides, one marked "B. M." and the other marked "B. W." in large letters, meaning "Black Men" and "Black Women." The church was very old, and was in the winter often uncomfortably cold. We can almost forgive the feeble-minded deacon who once arose in the midst of the service one Sunday, and said, "My feet are cold and brother Butt's feet are cold, and I think we had better all go over to Mr. Rice's and finish our meeting!" But the parson went on with his long sermon, notwithstanding cold feet. The church was torn down and the present one built about the year 1833. Chesterfield had at

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that time about three times as many inhabitants as it now has, and the new church, and soon after the parsonage, were built with comparatively little sacrifice. Our ancestors and the different branches of our family have been connected with the Congregational Church to a great extent, and many of these earlier dates were taken from church records.

A good moral and religious sentiment prevailed in our little town on the hills. Though knowledge was not as generally diffused as at the present time, many of the inhabitants were well educated and intelligent people. We had excellent schools, and a high standard of scholarship was often attained. To finish up their school-days, many daughters were sent to academies in the neighboring towns or to Mount Holyoke Seminary.

From these rural homes, on the barren,

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rocky hills, how many sons and daughters have gone to centres of influence, filling places of great usefulness and responsibility! Among these, with honest pride, we can number many of the descendants of our own ancestors.

In these early days, manners and customs were quite different from those of the present time. Ladies wore lace caps at the age of forty or before. Elderly ladies wore false hair over their foreheads, generally black, even if their own hair were white or gray. Out of doors, in the summer, green calashes made of rattans were worn. False teeth were very uncommon till later times. One aged deacon said he didn't think it *right* to wear them, for he thought the Lord never intended us to have but one set of teeth. The bright boy said, "I have had two sets already, grandpa!" Pet names, or nicknames, were not regarded with favor,

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either. I remember one father who had so great an aversion to them that he wanted his child christened "Jimmy," so he wouldn't be nicknamed.

It was an old custom in Chesterfield to toll the church bell after a death had occurred in the town. It often had a strange, solemn sound, coming in the stillness unexpectedly. First a few strokes, by way of warning, were given, then the number of years the deceased person had lived were counted, in single strokes, with a pause at each ten, that the count could be made more easily.

The town of Chesterfield was incorporated in the year 1762. There was a grand centennial celebration in the summer of 1862. At the close of the reunion they adjourned till 1962. I like to tell you of our early home, dear Helen, as you ask me to do. Old age is fond of reminiscence, and dull ears afford

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abundant opportunities for retrospect. We were all fond of our books, and were early taught to read and to write and to draw, and our parents took great interest in our progress. Your mother has so often said she wished our children could know more concerning our childhood's home. In our long drives we often recalled the distant past and its wealth of pleasant associations. We sometimes repeated the grand old hymns we sang in our girlhood, and, when the memory of one failed, the other could generally supply the gap. Father was a man of few words, but perhaps we the longer remember his wise cautions and directions. He would sternly say: "Be careful of your health. Sickness makes a great deal of trouble in the family." Again, "Go to bed and get up in the morning." "Look where you step" was another admonition, which has doubtless saved us a mortifying fall, or, perhaps, a

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fractured bone. Instead of dictating about our diet, his wise directions to his family and to his patients were given in a few words—"Eat what agrees with you!" I remember that, in reading the *Hampshire Gazette*, father came across the unexpected marriage of a friend. He read the notice to mother. She raised her hands in great surprise, and said, "I wonder if she has married well?" To which father dryly replied, "Paper doesn't state," and went on with his reading. He was a man of strong convictions and scrupulous integrity. He warmly contended for freedom and justice and equality, and he hated American slavery *bitterly*. The colored schools and churches at the South have received from your dear mother many a generous check in her loyal deference to her father's deep sympathy for the down-trodden race.

Notwithstanding my father's rather silent

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and reserved manner, there was one to whom he was ever responsive and indulgent. Your own dear mother, his youngest daughter, was from her babyhood the object of his pride and affection. She sweetly repaid his love by ardent love in return and by her cheerful obedience, and her naturally tender and loving spirit seemed developed and intensified by the indulgence she received from her father as well as from the other members of the family. After your mother's marriage, our parents became greatly attached to your father, and ever held him in high estimation. They often feelingly, in later life, spoke of the great kindness and assistance they and their family had received from him.

How often our future is poised and balanced on the pivot of a single incident, and that incident apparently unimportant! The fact of your mother coming to Waterbury

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to teach a class in music seems to have been the turning-point in her eventful life, as well as an event of great importance in the lives of many others. It resulted in her marriage to Mr. A. S. Chase, in their happy wedded life, their sons and daughters and their beautiful families, their elegant homes, the extensive business enterprises, the immense mills and factories. These are a *few* of the numerous remarkable results seen at the present time; and, looking forward to the progressing future, who can estimate the increasing advancement in ever-widening circles of influence and destiny?

It is wise to look back through the dim perspective of the past and recall the events of long ago. "Lest we forget,—lest we forget." For obvious reasons I have made no allusion in these pages to the death of your honored father nor to the present overwhelming bereavement and affliction. I can

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find no words, my dear Helen, to express my appreciation of your kindness and generosity, and that of your sister and brothers, in my increased loneliness and isolation; and the tender letters of dear Alice are a great comfort to me. The dear grandchildren, bless their hearts! how kind they are to me. God bless you all!

AUNT JANE.

JUNE, 1907.

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CHAPTER VII.

REVIEW.

No effort has been made, I suppose, to trace the history of the Starkweather family prior to the year 1640, when our illustrious ancestor, Robert Starkweather, came to this country. What induced him to leave home and kindred, and to come alone to this "wild rocky shore," we are not informed, In less than two years his lonely condition was relieved by his marriage to Jennette Roberts, who had come from Wales with her parents four years previously. The names of these ancestors have long been familiar to me:—

A. Robert and Jennette Starkweather.

B. John and Ann Starkweather.

C. John and Mary H. Starkweather.

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D. Robert and Sally C. Starkweather.

E. Dr. Robert and Sally Eager S. (my grandparents).

F. Dr. Rodney and Jane S. (my parents).

There have been ten generations in our branch of the Starkweather family since the marriage of Robert and Jennette in 1642. In seven of these generations my life has been lived, as I have great-grandchildren and my great-grandmother was living at the time of my birth. The descendants (now living) of my parents are as follows: Charles Robert's family. Children, 5; grandchildren, 20; great-grandchildren, 5. Jane S. Baldwin. Children, 4; grandchildren, 3; great-grandchildren, 3. Henry S. Children, 8; grandchildren, 16; great-grandchildren, 2. Martha S. Chase. Children, 6; grandchildren, 19.

The present number of the descendants of Dr. Rodney and Mrs. Jane Starkweather:—

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Children	2
Grandchildren	23
Great-grandchildren	57
Great-great grandchildren	10
—	
Total	92

The family tree has wide-spreading branches. It is often said with pride that “blood will tell”; but do we realize how rapidly and widely blood becomes diffused? We must bear in mind that the wives of our revered progenitors of family name were just as nearly related to us as were their husbands, and the husbands were only *half* Starkweathers, as their mothers were not Starkweathers. But, says one, we like to trace the honored *name* of our family. Yes, truly, but here comes another discouragement. The *daughters* renounce the name at their marriage and take that of the husband, but still belong to the family as much as do their brothers. Nevertheless, we find

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great satisfaction in the traditions and folklore of our ancestors, while the later generations have endeared themselves to us by sweetest memories and sacred associations.

I have found great pleasure in writing these pages, though painfully aware of my disability.

Remember, dear Helen, that family history is still in the making. I sincerely hope *you* will continue the record so imperfectly begun.

Realizing their grand heritage, may present and future generations of our family maintain the high standard of their predecessors in patriotism, intelligence, and Christian living.

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DEATHS.

	AGE.
Charles Starkweather, Northampton, July, 1843	84
Martha Kingsley S., Northampton, May, 1804,	42
Roxana Graves S., Northampton, January, 1847	78
Haynes Kingsley, Northampton, June, 1866 .	78
Chauncey Clark, Northampton, April, 1869 . .	78
Martha S. Clark, Northampton, September, 1869	78
Sarah S. Sanford, Ware, June, 1869	72
Laura S. Edwards, Chesterfield, September, 1869	78
Sybil H. Eager, Chicago, October, 1869 . . .	79
Jane S. Starkweather, Waterville, Ohio, October, 1869	75
Dr. Robert Starkweather, Chesterfield, May, 1858	92
Sally Eager Starkweather, Chesterfield, Feb- ruary, 1853	81
Dr. Rodney Starkweather, Waterville, Ohio, April, 1872	84

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	AGE.
Charles Robert Starkweather, Chicago, August,	
1867	51
Mary Eager Starkweather, Chicago, October,	
1870	53
Julia S. Reed, Chicago, July, 1874	54
Mary Woodbury S., Waterville, December, 1867,	30
Sarah S. Cobb, Kalamazoo, 1871	36
Sarah E. Wilson, Philadelphia, 1880	64
Jennison Eager, New York, 1871	56
Laura E. Eager, New York, Dec. 25, 1857 . .	70
Rev. P. C. Baldwin, Maumee, Ohio, July, 1892,	76
John M. Nichols, Columbus, Ohio, January,	
1894	42
Dr. William Henry Baldwin, Delta, Ohio, 1901,	43
Augustus Sabin Chase, Paris, France, 1896 . .	68
Eliza E. Fulton, Brooklyn, N.Y., Dec. 30, 1900,	71
Edward G. Mason, Chicago, Ill., 1898	59
Kate W. Edwards, Northampton, 1903	80
Oscar Edwards, Northampton, 1907	86
Charles G. Starkweather, Northampton, June,	
1906	87
Martha S. Chase, Waterbury, Dec. 1, 1906,	76
Elizabeth Chase Kimball, Pomfret, Oct. 7, 1907,	77

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BIRTHS.

DR. RODNEY STARKWEATHER and JANE STARKWEATHER married in Northampton, 1815.

Charles Robert, *b.* May, 1816.

Julia Augusta, *b.* February, 1820.

Jane, *b.* May, 1824.

Henry, *b.* August, 1826.

Martha, *b.* April, 1830.

CHARLES R. and MARY EAGER married 1841.

Ralph Edward, *b.* June, 1844.

Julia Maria, *b.* October, 1845.

Charles Huntington, *b.* January, 1848.

Chauncey Clark, *b.* November, 1851.

Frank Henry, *b.* July, 1853.

Walter Greydon, *b.* April, 1855; *d.* August, 1856.

Jane, *b.* June, 1856; *d.* in Morristown, N.J., 1864.

Douglas, *b.* June, 1858; *d.* July, 1867.

JULIA S. and REV. R. REED married January, 1846. She died in Chicago, July, 1874.

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JANE S. and REV. P. C. BALDWIN married January,
1850.

Charles Rodney, *b.* Jan. 22, 1851.

Julia Adelaide, *b.* Sept. 13, 1852.

Sara T., *b.* May, 1855.

William Henry, *b.* July 27, 1857.

Chauncey Clark, *b.* June, 1866.

HENRY S. and MARY WOODBURY married 1853.

Martha, *b.* Sept. 22, 1854.

Horace, *b.* October, 1856.

Frank W., *b.* April, 1861.

Nellie, *b.* April, 1863.

Jane, *b.* January, 1866.

HENRY S. and MARY WOOD married June, 1869.

Harry S., *b.* 1875.

Fred Chase, *b.* 1880.

Will, *b.* July, 1881.

MARTHA S. and AUGUSTUS SABIN CHASE married
Sept. 9, 1854.

HENRY SABIN CHASE and ALICE MORTON married
April 4, 1889.

Mildred, *b.* Feb. 21, 1890.

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Edith Morton, *b.* April 3, 1891.

Anne, *b.* July 25, 1892.

Katharine, *b.* Dec. 21, 1893.

Rodney, *b.* Jan. 16, 1897.

IRVING HALL and ELIZABETH KELLOGG married
Feb. 28, 1889.

Marjorie Starkweather, *b.* Oct. 9, 1891.

Eleanor Kellogg, *b.* Jan. 30, 1894.

Lucia Hosmer, *b.* March 23, 1897.

Elizabeth Irving, *b.* June 12, 1905.

Dorothy Mather, *b.* Dec. 9, 1907.

FREDERICK STARKWEATHER and ELSIE ROWLAND
married Feb. 17, 1890.

Ethel Rowland, *b.* Feb. 5, 1892.

Helen Starkweather, *b.* Nov. 11, 1894.

Augustus Sabin, *b.* March 16, 1897.

Edmund Rowland, *b.* July 6, 1898.

Fredrika, *b.* Sept. 27, 1903.

Justine Whittemore, *b.* July 25, 1906.

MARY ELIZA and ARTHUR REED KIMBALL married
May 15, 1895.

Elizabeth Chase, *b.* Feb. 4, 1900.

Chase, *b.* Jan. 20, 1902.

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ALICE MARTHA and EDWARD CLARK STREETER
married Jan. 27, 1906.

Helen Chase, *b.* March 28, 1907, in Paris.

John Williams, *b.* Sept. 11, 1908, in Manchester-by-the-Sea.

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“The village of Chesterfield is six miles from Williamsburg, and is reached by a good country road, lying for a good part of its distance through a wooded country, and being no more difficult of grade than one might expect of the way to a point 1,474 feet above sea-level. It is the oldest of the Hampshire hill towns, having been incorporated in 1762. The earliest grants were made to soldiers of the province in recognition of their services in the French and Indian Wars. There are some names, as those of Edwards, Baker, Tower, Bryant, which belong to citizens of the present day and appear in the early records of the town. The population now numbers but 600, but that moral decadence of country towns which has in the past few years been the subject of solemn discussion is unimaginable in relation to Chesterfield. Its citizenship is of the same high order as were the intrepid soldiers of the provincial wars, the men who declared boldly for freedom and fought gloriously for its attainment in the Revolutionary War and those who saw the best days of the town, when its

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population numbered 1,500 and it had a proportionately greater influence. The importance of a substantial native citizenship at a country resort is evident, when one considers how frequently it comes to pass that valued and enduring friendship arise between the country people and the summer visitors. And there is something to be said of the influences with which children are surrounded during the vacation period. The people of Chesterfield, though few in number, are for the most part of the prosperous farming class, of which it is often truly said that there is no better, and there are a number of successful manufacturers in a small way in the village of West Chesterfield, who find that a fair degree of profit is possible even without railroad facilities." (1890.)

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Look not mournfully into the past. It comes not back again. Wisely improve the present. It is thine. Go forth to meet the shadowy future without fear and with a brave and manly heart.

Hyperion.

These first affections,
These shadowy recollections,
Which, be they what they may,
Are yet the fountain light of all our day.

Wordsworth.

Yea, strew his ashes to the wind
Whose sword or voice has served mankind.
And is he dead, whose glorious mind
Lifts thine on high?
To live in hearts we leave behind
Is not to die.

Thomas Campbell.



